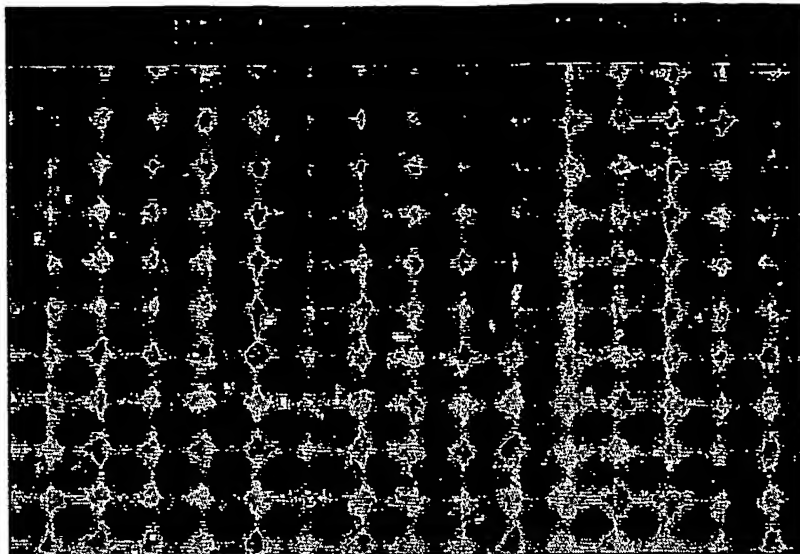
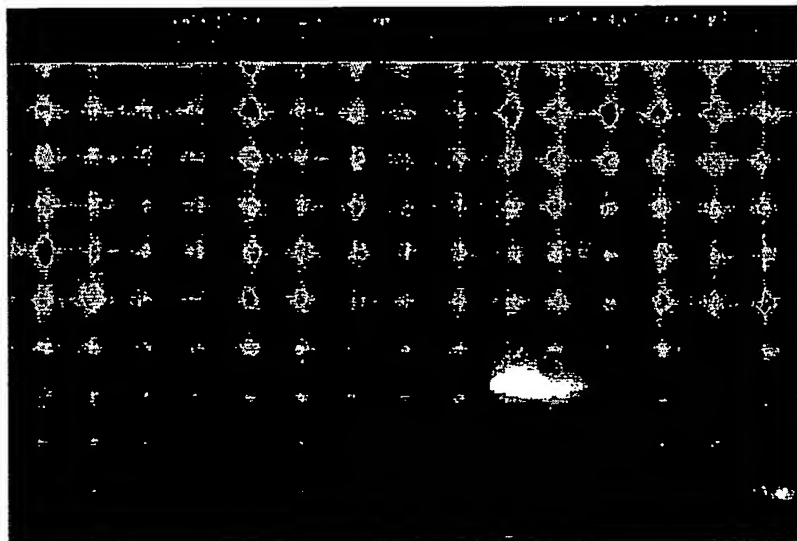


(a) $\times 1.0K$ 

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(b) $\times 6.0K$ 

5

Figure 1: SEM micrograph of the surface of polyurethane containing 6.1wt% alumina prepared via the solvent method.

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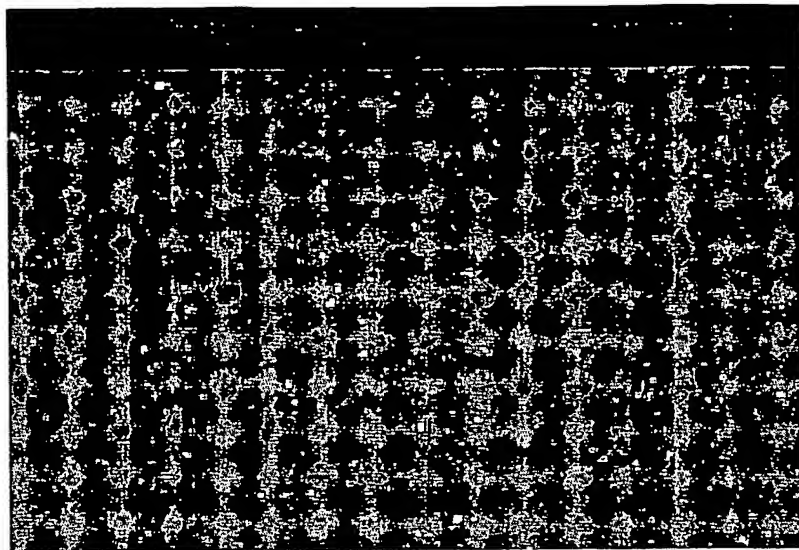
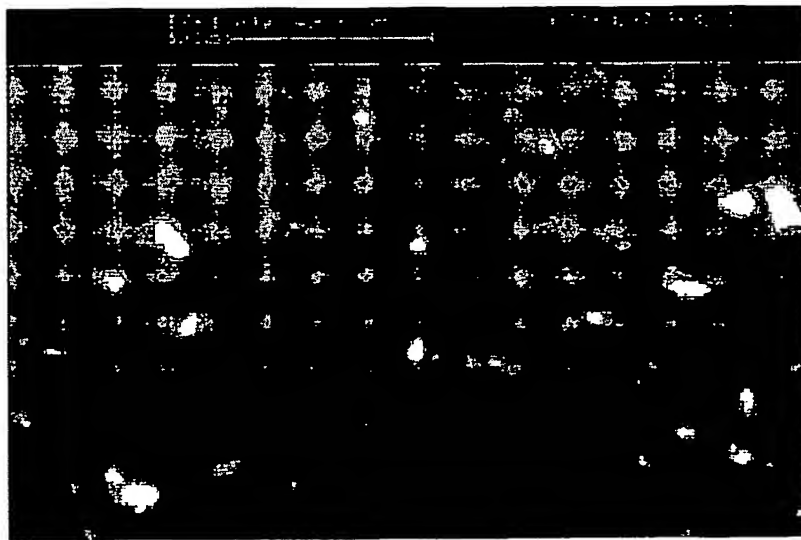
(a) $\times 1.0K$ 5 (b) $\times 6.0K$ 

Figure 2: SEM micrograph of the surface of polyurethane containing 6.1wt% SiC prepared via the solvent method.

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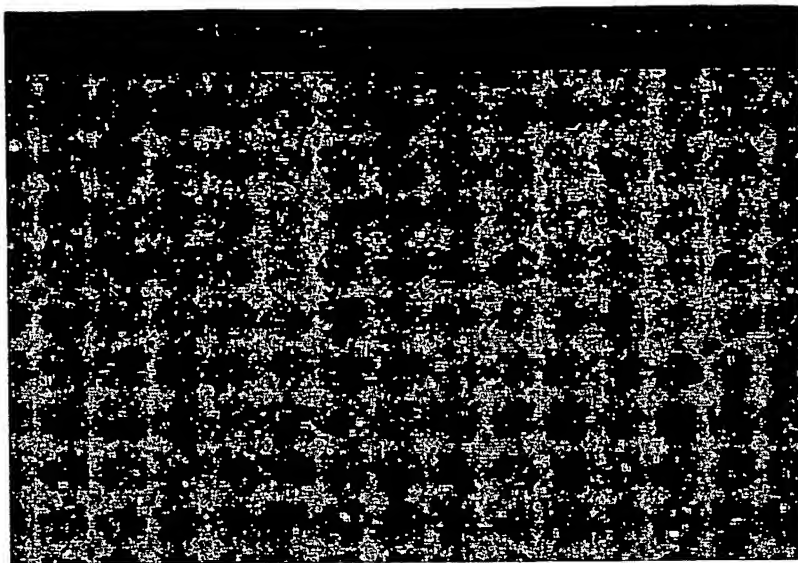
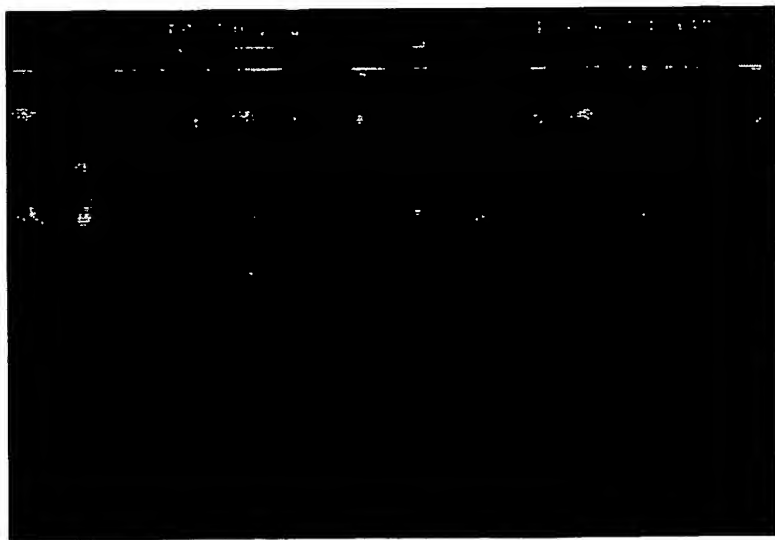
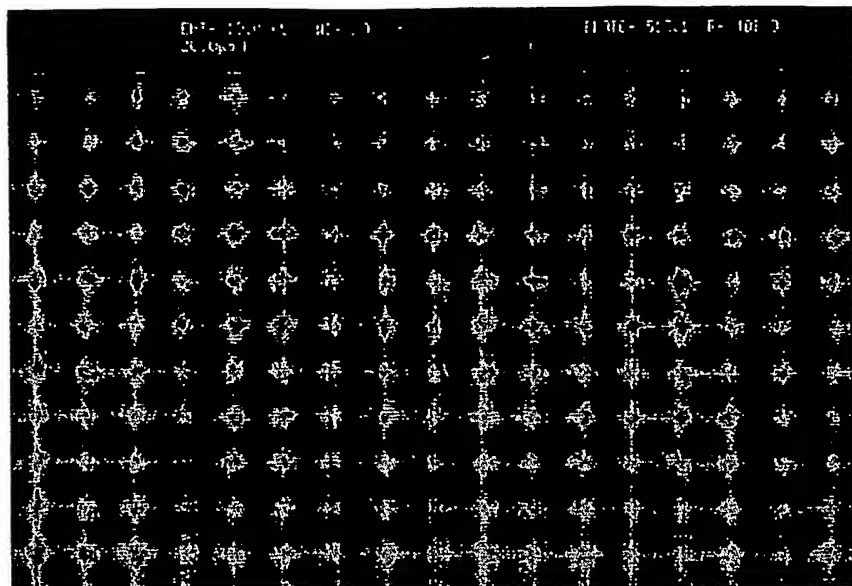
(a) $\times 1.0K$ 5 (b) $\times 6.0K$ 

Figure 3: SEM micrograph of the surface of polyurethane containing 20.5 % SiC prepared via the solvent method.

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(a) $\times 2.0K$ (b) $\times 5.0K$

5

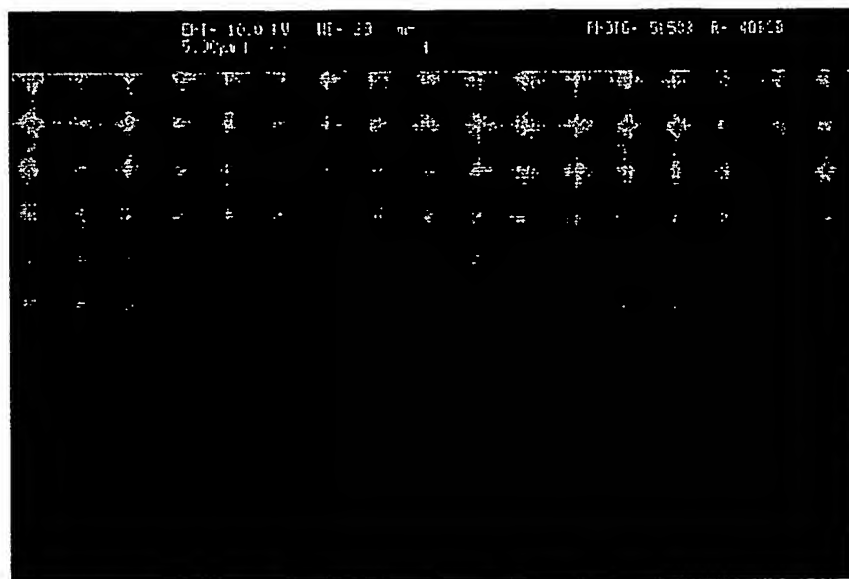


Figure 4: SEM micrograph of the surface of polyurethane containing 1.3wt% alumina prepared via the non-solvent method.

Illustration of poor dispersion:

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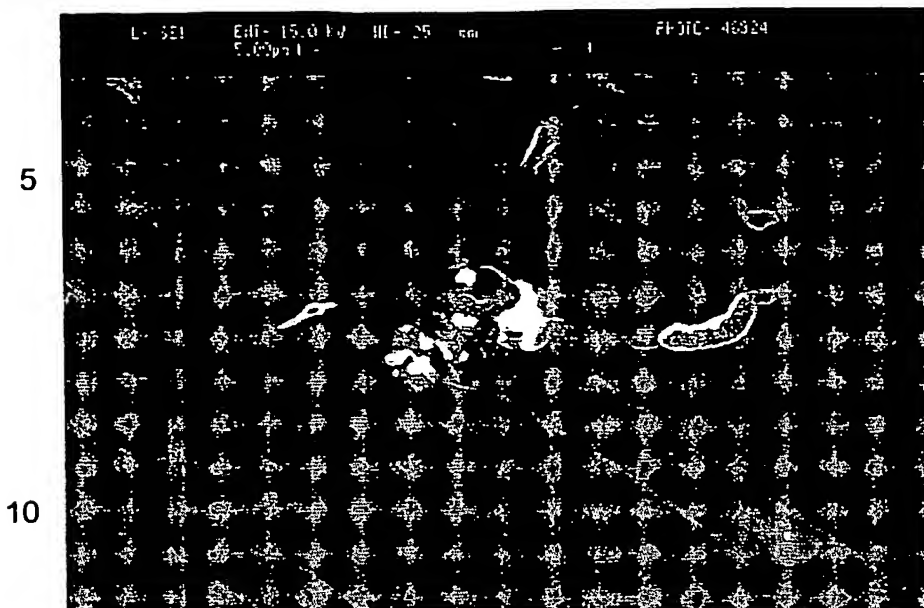


Figure 5: Secondary emission scanning electron micrograph of poorly dispersed alumina particles. In centre is an agglomerate 3 μm in size composed of agglomerated 0.72 μm particles.



15 **Figure 6:** Secondary emission scanning electron micrograph of poorly dispersed alumina particles. In centre is an agglomerate 20 μm in size composed of agglomerated 0.72 μm particles.